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Application No: 10/015,708

Attorney's Docket No: US010602

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 4-18 and 21-24 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 18 and 24 are independent. Claims 1 and 18 are amended. Claim 24 is added.

In sections 10-29 on pages 4-11, the Office Action rejects claims 1, 4-18 and 21-23 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,643,650 to Slaughter et al. (hereinafter "Slaughter") in view of "UDDI Technical White Paper" (hereinafter "UDDI-WP") and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,974,406 to Bisdikian et al. (hereinafter "Bisdikian"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1, from which claims 4-17 depend, recites, "notifying the user by e-mail and telephone of the results of the initial search...notifying the user by e-mail and telephone of the results of the subsequent search" (emphasis added). Claim 18, from which claims 21-23 depend, recites, "notifying the user by e-mail and regular mail of the results of the initial search...notifying the user by e-mail and regular mail of the results of the subsequent search" (emphasis added). New claim 24 recites, "notifying the user by e-mail of the results of the subsequent search including a name, address and phone number of a service provider; and charging a fee to the user" (emphasis added).

In contradistinction, neither Slaughter, UDDI-WP nor Bisdikian disclose, teach or suggest the subject matter quoted above according to the combinations recited in claims 1, 18 and 24.

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully requested that rejection of claims 1, 4-18 and 21-23 as allegedly being unpatentable over Slaughter in view of UDDI-WP and Bisdikian

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be withdrawn. Also for at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that new claim 24 is patentable over the combination of Slaughter in view of UDDI-WP and Bisdikian.

CONCLUSION

While we believe that the instant amendment places the application in condition for allowance, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney in order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

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In the event that the fees submitted prove to be insufficient in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge our Deposit Account Number 50-0578 and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: February 7, 2007

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